

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PANAMA 02283 261453 Z

43

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 PM-09

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 PRS-01 USIA-12

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R 261438 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7276

UNCLAS PANAMA 2283

FOR ARA/ PAN AND SCS

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, PN, CU

SUBJECT: LEGAL PROCESS ON CAPTAIN VILLA TO BEGIN

REF: PANAMA 1893

1. MAJOR PANAMANIAN MORNING DAILIES APRIL 26 CARRY ANNOUNCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL OLMEDO MIRANDA THAT A PANAMA COURT WILL BE ASKED TO RULE WHETHER CAPT. JOSE VILLA, WHO WAS THE CAPTAIN OF THE PANAMA FREIGHTER JOHNNY EXPRESS WHEN IT WAS SEIZED BY THE CUBAN NAVY TWO YEARS AGO, SHOULD STAND TRIAL.

2. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IS QUOTED AS SAYING A DISTRICT ATTORNEY IN HIS DEPARTMENT IS PREPARING A SUMMATION OF THE CASE WHICH WILL BE SUBMITTED TO A CIRCUIT COURT FOR RULING NEXT WEEK. THE RULING WILL DETERMINE WHETHER VILLA WILL BE REQUIRED TO STAND TRIAL. STORIES ADD " IF HE STANDS TRIAL AND IS CONVICTED CAPT. VILLA FACES A MINIMUM PRISON TERM OF TWO YEARS."

3. STORIES CLOSE QUOTING ATTORNEY GNERAL " CAPTAIN VILLA WILL BE PROVIDED WITH MEANS FOR HIS DEFENSE IF HE CANNOT EMPLOY HIS OWN COUNSEL."

SAYRE

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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